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JUN 19 2008

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of :
Ibrahim, et al. : DECISION ON PETITION
Application No.: 10/589,542 :
Filed: 16 August, 2006 :
Attorney Docket No. W51.12-0033 :
:

This is the decision in response to the petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.47(a), filed on 17 April, 2008.

NOTE: It is noted that one of the two co-inventors now has signed/joined in the oath/declaration—thus, the instant petition is considered under 37 C.F.R. §1.47(a) (rather than §1.47(b) as originally filed) as to the remaining non-signing inventor.

The petition as considered under 37 C.F.R. §1.47(a), is **GRANTED**.

Petitioner has shown that the remaining non-signing inventor has not replied and thus constructively have refused to sign/join in the filing of the above-identified application.

The application and papers have been reviewed and found in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.47(a). This application is hereby accorded Rule 1.47(a) status.

The record reflects that: Petitioner demonstrates that the entire application—description, claims, abstract and drawings—was sent to and received at the last known residence address of the remaining non-signing inventor, and that the non-signing inventor has since failed and, thus, constructively refused to join in the filing of the above-identified application.

The availability of applications and application papers online to applicants/practitioners who diligently associate their Customer Number with the respective application(s) now provides an applicant/practitioner on-demand information as to events/transactions in an application. Thus, now if one wishes to know the progress in and/or status of an application or the accuracy of the data therein, one need only look at the file online.

Out of an abundance of caution, Petitioners always are reminded that those registered to practice *and* all others who make representations before the Office must inquire into the underlying facts of representations made to the Office and support averments with the appropriate documentation—since all owe to the Office the continuing duty to disclose.¹

CONCLUSION

The instant petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.47 is granted.

As provided in 37 C.F.R. §1.47(c), this Office will forward notice of this application's filing to the non-signing inventor at the address given in the petition. Notice of the filing of this application will also be published in the Official Gazette.

The instant application is released to the Office of Patent Application Processing (OPAP) (formerly the Office of Initial Patent Examination (OIPE)) for further processing in due course.

While telephone inquiries regarding this decision may be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-3214, it is noted that all practice before the Office is in writing (see: 37 C.F.R. §1.2²) and the proper authority for action on any matter in this regard are the statutes (35 U.S.C.), regulations (37 C.F.R.) and the commentary on policy (MPEP). Therefore, no telephone discussion may be controlling or considered authority for Petitioner's action(s).



/John J. Gillon, Jr./
John J. Gillon, Jr.
Senior Attorney
Office of Petitions

¹ See supplement of 17 June, 1999. The Patent and Trademark Office is relying on petitioner's duty of candor and good faith and accepting a statement made by Petitioner. See Changes to Patent Practice and Procedure, 62 Fed. Reg. at 53160 and 53178, 1203 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office at 88 and 103 (responses to comments 64 and 109)(applicant obligated under 37 C.F.R. §10.18 to inquire into the underlying facts and circumstances when providing statements to the Patent and Trademark Office). See specifically, the regulations at 37 C.F.R. §10.18.

² The regulations at 37 C.F.R. §1.2 provide:

§1.2 Business to be transacted in writing.

All business with the Patent and Trademark Office should be transacted in writing. The personal attendance of applicants or their attorneys or agents at the Patent and Trademark Office is unnecessary. The action of the Patent and Trademark Office will be based exclusively on the written record in the Office. No attention will be paid to any alleged oral promise, stipulation, or understanding in relation to which there is disagreement or doubt.



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NICOLAS IBRAHIM
1, RUE BLEUETS
78180 MONTIGNY LE BRETONNEUX
FRANCE

In re Application of : COMMUNICATION
Ibrahim, et al. :
Application No.: 10/589,542 :
Filed: 16 August, 2006 :
Attorney Docket No. W51.12-0033 :
:

Dear Nicolas Ibrahim:

You are named as an inventor in the above-identified United States patent application, filed under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. 116 (United States Code), and 37 CFR 1.47, Rules of Practice in Patent Cases. Should a patent be granted on the application you will be designated therein as an inventor.

As a named inventor you are entitled to inspect any paper in the file wrapper of the application, order copies of all or any part thereof (at a prepaid cost per 37 CFR 1.19) or make your position of record in the application. Alternatively, you may arrange to do any of the preceding through a registered patent attorney or agent presenting written authorization from you. If you care to join the application, counsel of record (see below) would presumably assist you. Joining the application would entail the filing of an appropriate oath or declaration by you pursuant to 37 CFR 1.63.

Should you elect to join in the application, the contact information for Counsel of Record is set forth at the end of this Communication.

Should you seek to identify independent Counsel, you may find the Patent Attorneys/Agents Search engine of assistance (<https://oedci.uspto.gov/OEDCI/>).

Requests for information regarding your application should be directed to the File Information Unit at (703) 308-2733. Information regarding how to pay for and order a copy of the application, or a specific paper in the application, should be directed to the Certification Division at (571) 272-3150 or 1 (800) 972-6382 (outside the Washington, DC area).

While telephone inquiries regarding this communication may be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-3214, it is noted that all practice before the Office is in writing (see: 37 C.F.R. §1.2¹) and the proper authority for action on any matter in this regard are the statutes (35 U.S.C.), regulations (37 C.F.R.) and the commentary on policy (MPEP). Therefore, no telephone discussion may be controlling or considered authority for Petitioner's action(s). Moreover, the Office cannot neither advise you nor recommend Counsel in this matter.



/John J. Gillon, Jr./
John J. Gillon, Jr.
Senior Attorney
Office of Petitions

Counsel of Record:
WESTMAN CHAMPLIN
& KELLY, P.A.
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